

Current legislation that could affect farm workers or immigrants in Michigan

Summary by Farmworker Legal Services, 2/26/2007

STATE BILLS – 2007-2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

To view these bills:

- (1) Go to www.legislature.mi.gov, and then type the bill number (without the “HB” or “SB”) in the appropriate space under “Legislative Bill Search”, OR
- (2) Follow the link underneath each bill number below

State bill summaries are grouped into the following categories:

- Health
 - Driver’s Licenses and State ID Cards
 - Education
 - Immigration and State Programs Generally
-

HEALTH

DRIVER’S LICENSES AND STATE ID CARDS

SB 99

<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=2007-SB-0099>

Bill Summary:

The bill would change Michigan’s law regarding eligibility for a state I.D. card. Specifically the bill would add a requirement that an applicant present documents that are sufficient to show that the applicant is a U.S. citizen or “resident alien lawfully admitted to the United States.”

The bill would also add a requirement that a state I.D. card issued to a non-citizen would expire on the date that his or her presence in the U.S. becomes unlawful.

Primary Sponsor: Judson Gilbert (Republican – Lapeer and St. Clair Counties)

Bill Status:

1/25/2007: Introduced in Michigan Senate

1/25/2007: Referred to Committee on Transportation

SCR 3 (Senate Concurrent Resolution 3)

<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/mileg.aspx?page=getobject&objectname=2007-SCR-0003>

Resolution Summary:

The resolution urges the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to work with the states to coordinate development of REAL-ID-compliant driver’s licenses that may also be presented in lieu of a passport, to satisfy the federal rule that as of 1/1/2008, U.S. citizens re-entering the United States by land from Canada must have a valid U.S. passport.

Primary Sponsor: Judson Gilbert (Republican – Lapeer and St. Clair Counties)

Other Sponsors: Jason Allen, Wayne Kuipers, Alan Sanborn, Mark Jansen, Alan Cropsey, Patricia Birkholz, John Pappageorge, Hansen Clarke, John Gleason, Randy Richardville

Bill Status:

1/30/2007: Introduced in Michigan Senate

1/30/2007: Referred to Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Emerging Technologies

2/06/2007: Senate Committee passed the Resolution 5 to 0 as amended in version S-1

2/08/2007: Senate placed the Resolution on the Order of Resolutions

2/13/2007: Senate adopted the Resolution as amended in substitute version S-1

2/13/2007: House referred resolution to Committee on New Economy and Quality of Life

HR 25 (House Resolution 25)

<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=2007-HR-0025>

Resolution Summary:

The resolution urges the U.S. Congress to fully fund the states' efforts to implement the REAL ID Act of 2005.

Primary Sponsor: David Agema (Republican – Kent County: Alpine Township and City of Grandville; Ottawa County: City of Coopersville and Townships of Crockery, Georgetown, Polkton, Tallmadge, and Wright)

Other Sponsors: John Stahl, Darwin Booher, Glenn Steil, Daniel Acciavatti, Phillip Pavlov, John Stakoe, Arlan Meekhof, Robert Dean, John Pastor, Dave Hildenbrand, Brian Palmer, Rick Jones, Steve Bieda, Lee Gonzales, Richard Hammel, Gary McDowell, Rick Shaffer, Joel Sheltrown, Steve Tobocman

Bill Status:

2/22/2007: Introduced in Michigan House

2/22/2007: **Referred to House Committee on New Economy and Quality of Life**

EDUCATION

HB 4096

<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/mileg.aspx?page=getobject&objectname=2007-HB-4096>

Bill Summary:

This bill would create the Michigan Opportunity Scholarship. To be eligible, students must graduate high school or obtain a G.E.D.

Under the bill, in order to be eligible for assistance, students must be U.S. citizens, have resided in Michigan for the preceding 12 months, not be considered a resident of any other state, and must not be incarcerated. Under this language, any student who is not a U.S. citizen would be ineligible.

The bill would also repeal the following existing state educational programs: State Competitive Scholarship, Tuition Grant, Payment for Earned Degrees, Part-Time Independent Student Grants, Michigan Educational Opportunity Grant Program, and Michigan Work-Study Program.

Primary Sponsor: Aldo Vagnozzi (Democrat – Cities of Farmington Hills and Farmington in Oakland County)

Other Sponsors: Pam Byrnes (Democrat – Ann Arbor, and other parts of Washtenaw County)

Lee Gonzales (Democrat – part of city of Flint, city of Swartz Creek, other parts of Genesee County)

Bob Constan (Democrat – parts of cities of Allen Park & Dearborn Heights, cities of Garden City and Inkster, all in Wayne County)

LaMar Lemmons Jr. (Democrat – part of city of Detroit)

George Cushingberry Jr. (Democrat – part of city of Detroit)

Brenda Clack (Democrat – part of city of Flint)

Bill Status:

1/23/2007: Introduced in Michigan House

1/23/2007: **Referred to Committee on Education**

IMMIGRATION; STATE PROGRAMS GENERALLY

HR 10 (House Resolution 10)

<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/mileg.aspx?page=getobject&objectname=2007-HR-0010>

Resolution Summary:

This resolution would “memorialize the United States Congress to adopt and present to the states for ratification an amendment to the United States Constitution to prohibit the counting of illegal immigrants in the tabulations of population for purposes of apportioning members of Congress among the states.”

Primary Sponsor: Glenn Steil Jr. (R-Kent County: Kentwood, Townships of Cascade, Gaines, and Caledonia)

Other Sponsors: 19 other sponsors

Bill Status:

1/23/2007: Introduced in Michigan House

FEDERAL BILLS – 2007-2008 CONGRESSIONAL SESSION

To view these bills:

- (1) Go to <http://thomas.loc.gov>, select “Bill Number”, and then type the bill number (including the “S” or “HR”) in the appropriate space under “Search Bill Text”

AgJOBS - Agricultural Job Opportunities, Benefits, and Security Act of 2007

Bill Number: S.340, HR 371

Bill Summary:

The bill would enact an “earned legalization” program for undocumented farmworkers. The bill would also modify the federal H2A guestworker program. For more details about the bill, please go to the website of Farmworker Justice: http://fwjustice.org/Immigration_Labor/AgJOBS.htm

Bill Status:

1/10/2007: Introduced in House and referred to Committee on the Judiciary

1/18/2007: Introduced in Senate and referred to Committee on the Judiciary